

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSUREExpression Systems Utilizing Autolyzing Fusion Proteins
and a Novel Reducing Polypeptide

The present invention provides expression systems for exogenous polypeptides wherein the polypeptide is expressed as a fusion protein together with clover yellow virus Nuclear Inclusion a (NIa), the NIa component serving to autolyze the fusion protein after expression. This system can be used to express a novel polypeptide which we have designated KM31-7 protein and which is capable of reducing dichloroindophenol and reduced glutathione. This polypeptide is useful in the treatment of disorders caused by oxidative stress.